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添付公開書類

国際調査報告書

APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY MEASURING MINUTE MEMBRANE POTENTIAL

(54)発明の名称 自動微小膜電位計測装置

(57) Abstract

An apparatus for automatically measuring minute membrane potential, based on a technique developed for controlling a membrane denaturation reaction without using a physical shearing force, for example, a method of causing the destruction of membrane at a limited portion of a living membrane by making a stimulus, such as light and a compound activated by the stimulus react with each other in a membrane, such as a living membrane, this method being applied to a minute electrode to facilitate the insertion thereof into a cell, which has been difficult in the use of a minute metal electrode, and enable membrane potential in a cell to be measured easily, the minute metal electrode enabling the integration thereof and the development of a neural interface in the barrierfree technology.

STIMULUS

MEMBRANE STRUCTURE

SUPPORT MEMBERS

PORTTONS

3 ... MEMBRANE DENATURATION REACTION PROMOTING

... DENATURED PORTION OF THE MEMBRANE

! 擁權造体 3 膜变成反応促進部位 4 輝変成部位



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(12) United States Patent Karube et al.

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(54) APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY MEASURING MINUTE MEMBRANE POTENTIAL

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(57) ABSTRACT

An apparatus for automatically measuring minute membrane potential, based on a technique developed for controlling a membrane denaturation reaction without using a physical shearing force, for example, a method of causing the destruction of membrane at a limited portion of a living membrane by making a stimulus, such as light and a compound activated by the stimulus react with each other in a membrane, such as a living membrane, this method being applied to a minute electrode to facilitate the insertion thereof into a cell, which has been difficult in the use of a minute metal electrode, and enable membrane potential in a cell to be measured easily, the minute metal electrode enabling the integration thereof and the development of a neural interface in the barrier-free technology.

13 Claims, 16 Drawing Sheets

SiO₂ (THICKNESS 100 nm)

TOP SURFACE

Au (THICKNESS 220 nm)

SiO₂ (THICKNESS 100 nm)

BOTTOM SURFACE (MEASURING SURFACE)